

Portland Labor Press

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The Willamette Pulp & Paper Company and the Crown-Columbia Pulp & Paper Company have advanced the wages of their men 25 cents per day each. While the management claims that the raise had been contemplated for the past three months the increase did not actually materially realize until the men went on a strike a few days ago for better wages. The differences, however, have been amicably settled.

There is a tie-up in San Francisco on the water front between the sailors and ship masters. It is due to the refusal of the masters to give the sailors an increase in wages of \$5.00 per month. The purpose of the ship-owners in forcing a strike is unquestionably to prejudice public opinion against the sailors for making the demand at this time. The truth of the matter is the sailors made their request for the advance three months ago, and it would have been granted there ere this had the San Francisco calamity not occurred when it did. The ship-owners are the ones guilty of using the great misfortune to further their own interests. The infirmities of the afflicted oftentimes make big bul- lies brave.

Telegraphic dispatches from Wash- ington, D. C., state that on June 1st the Senate passed the railway em- ployes liability bill which passed the house a couple of weeks ago. Sen- ator Daniel gave notice of a motion to reconsider which, if it prevails, will bring the question before the Senate again for consideration. The great- est surprise is that it received favor- able consideration on the part of the Senate in the first place. It looks like the president's fight upon the re- bate bill and the expose of the meat packers and other forms of corrup- tion in the realms of high finance had taken the fight all out of the trust Senators. Such a little thing as an employes liability bill is hardly suf- ficient to awaken them from their trance.

The election is now over and the community will relax into its normal state. The working people have shared well in the results and they should now commence an educational cam- paign to do better. The means of re- lief are here in the initiative and referendum, if the legislature is derelict in the performance of its func- tions, and we have the direct primary law through the agency of which we can rebuke truant officers and elect good ones. The labor unions should arise to the occasion of their im- portant position in the community and prepare themselves to become an invaluable factor for better gov- ernment. The cry of the man against reform is he who thrives upon the social and political corruption of the land. He is a social buzzard and his usefulness ends when the political al- lies are cleaned up.

Since President Roosevelt has re- vealed to the people of this country the inside history of the meat-pack- ing industry of the meat trusts, the nostrils of the barons have become offended—not at the filth of their own institutions, but at the president for having the temerity to expose their skeletons. These barons now threat- en to unhorse him from his political mount. What a nice time they will have, and what a disfiguring they will get at the trial. What a crime it was anyway for the president to send his agents to investigate the op- erations of institutions greater than the law. It was not sufficient that these agents found a condition of things that would turn the stomachs of the stoutest, but by these discov-

eries they offended the fat and un- cautious porker. And now Mr. Roose- velt is to be sacrificed into political mince meat since his zeal overcame a cautious mouth.

The Woman's Suffrage Amendment failed of election, but if the voters of this state could have known the refining effect these women had upon polling places they would have changed their minds that women at the ballot had a tendency to deteriorate the sex. In fact the opposite is the case. Their presence at the polls elevated standard of the men. Ac- cording to police authorities the elec- tion last Monday was the most order- ly in Portland than at any time dur- ing its history, and there were from one to half a dozen ladies at every polling place. There is another fact well worth remembering. There wasn't a woman at the election booths that received a penny for her labors, and many of them were there for many weary hours. In comparison it is a safe bet that there was not a man at the polling places giving out cards and literature but what was there in the interest of some candidate or orga- nization who paid him for his services.

The Seattle Union Record says there is a move on foot in Washing- ton to employ state prisoners on road work. There is not only an effort being made in Oregon to employ con- victs permanently on public high- ways, but it is and has been given a fair trial for several months past. The trial has proven highly satis- factory, according to the reports of the state prison officials. Anent a resolution passed at the last session of the legislature Governor Cham- berlain appointed a commission to investigate the feasibility of working prisoners on roads, their findings to be submitted to the 1907 session. A union man was given a place upon the commission, as the project has been championed by organized labor in the state for some time, for the reason that the convicts have been contracted to a stove concern for 35 cents per day, in open competition with free labor. The result of the general plan will depend upon the report of the commission and the action of the legislature. It cannot be held impracticable because the road work now being done by the prisoners is satisfactory in every way.

Oregon citizens are "going some" for people who have been dubbed "webfeet." They have gone further than the people of any other state in the union to give the principle of the "initiative and referendum" a practical application. At the state election this month they will vote upon several laws put on the ballot by petition. Some of these measures are for the purpose of repealing laws that have been passed by the legislature; others are for laws that the legislature either failed or refused to enact. Of the latter class several have been proposed by or- ganized labor, and one or two by the enemies of organized labor. One measure that is particularly obnoxious to union people is the proposal to fix the wages of me- chanics in the printing trades, as far as state work is concerned, by direct vote of the people. The unionists of Oregon have votes enough, combined with those they can control, to defeat this measure; and it's up to them to do it. If it is adopted it will not be a proof that the referendum system of voting is unjust—but that the unionists of the state were not diligent in performing their political duty.—Seattle Union Record.

Our Seattle contemporary has its wires crossed. The amendment re- ferred to has nothing to do with fixing the "wages of mechanics in the printing trades, as far as state work is concerned." The Typo- graphical Union does that. The amendment simply places the state printing office in the hands of the state legislature to regulate where heretofore its extravagancies could not be reached because of constitu- tional provisions. Under the sacred wing of the state constitution the of- fice had been manipulated so that a state printer could retire after four years, and eight in most instances, with a handsome fortune, at the ex- pense of the taxpayer. Under the amendment which carried by a ma- jority of 10,488, the emoluments of the office are sure to be cut down, or the state printer placed on a flat salary, because the people are de- termined to have some relief from this graft. The amendment was not "obnoxious to the union people," be- cause it does not affect the printer and helps him and all mechanics who are taxpayers.

The last issue of the Coast Sea- men's Journal contains a scathing denunciation of Mayor Schmitz and the board of San Francisco super- visors in an article entitled, "Strick- en and Sold," for granting to the street railway companies permits to erect overhead trolleys for periods

commensurate with the life of their franchises. These franchises run from eight to twenty-five years, and the Journal contends that the action of the city administration usurped the rights of the people, and the per- mits should only have been given tem- porarily. While the Journal is on the ground and probably feels that its contentions are right, it does not express the sentiment of the united labor sentiment of the city. Two weeks ago a resolution was introduced in the Central Labor Council by the delegates from the Sailors Union de- nunciatory of the administration, and at the following meeting of the Council its former action was repud- iated by a larger vote than the first resolution had been passed. While it is not our purpose to question the motive of the Journal it seems from this distance that in its haste and zealotness and temper the Journal forgot to be charitable. Perhaps Mayor Schmitz made a mistake in not submitting the question of giving the company what it asked to the people; perhaps this would have been the better way, but this paper be- lieves that if Mayor Schmitz has made a mistake it was not done in the manner the Journal implies. If Mayor Schmitz had been for sale there would have been plenty of op- portunity during the three terms he has been mayor of San Francisco at a better advantage during the time that the city was in its hey-day of prosperity. Mayor Schmitz has been in a position since the 18th day of April that few men can appreciate. Instead of taking advantage of the calamity to enrich himself the Labor Press would sooner believe that he tried to harmonize the difference of the classes, which is impossible at any time, and he was persuaded into the belief that the demands of the people called for a quick service of cars up- on the streets of the crippled city. All of the harsh criticism would have been spared, however, had the mayor put the responsibility upon the peo- ple and the company by referring it to a vote of the people.

LABOR NOTES

Boys can be again employed in the mines or the breakers of Pennsylv- ania just as they were before the child labor statute was enacted. The reason lies in a decision just reached by the state courts. In the decision, the court holds to be unconstitutional and therefore void, the vital sections of that statute of 1905 which pro- hibited the employment underground of boys under the age of 16 years, and the employment about the mine mouth, above ground, of boys under the age of 14 years. The court says: "For the reason stated we are of opinion that so much of the act as requires the furnishing of employ- ment certificates, and as provides a method of obtaining the same and imposes duties as to their issuance, and fines and penalties for employ- ing those who shall not have pro- cured them, is violative of the four- teenth amendment and is unconsti- tutional and void." The decision by the Luzerne Court has been sustained by the Supreme Court. They are certainly rubbing it in on the miners.

Plans for organization on a large scale are under way in several large cities, notably Philadelphia and Chi- cago. The different National and International unions are sending in their best organizers and the Ameri- can Federation of Labor is doing the same. Apart from the desire to in- crease the membership of the trades unions, it is the intention to organize the people on independent political lines, as recommended by Presi- dent Gompers and the executive council of the A. F. of L. Between now and next fall it is expected that there will be fully 2,000 voluntary orga- nizers in the field, with a resultant increase in the trade union mem- bership of 200,000.

SHIRT SALE

You can't name the store, no matter how much you may favor it, where you can get values and bargains that will stand the test side by side with our goods and prices. The Greatest Range of Styles of Men's Dress Shirts in Fancy Stripe, French Percales, Stiff Bosoms, Separate Cuffs. Also another Great Range of Soft Silk Front Shirts values ranging from \$1.00 to \$1.50, take your pick, for..... 50c

Extra Special values in Men's Undershirts, Overshirts, Overall Sox, Ties and Handkerchiefs. Come and see.

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Men's Spring and Sum- mer Suits

In Regular \$16, \$18 and \$20 kind, at your choice for

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The man who comes here to find these exceptional values will be satisfied.

LION Clothing Co
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Everything to Wear for Men and Boys
166-68 Third St. Mohawk Bldg

WILL GIVE A SMOKER.

On Monday evening, June 11, the Shipwrights and Caulkers Union will give a smoker and general all 'round good time to the members and a few invited guests. There will be songs, short talks, dialogues, refreshments and many other pleasing features. The smoker will be held in Unity Hall, corner Second and Morrison streets, in the old Painters' hall. This Union is not a stranger to the social world, as many good trade unionists will remember. They not only fol- low their craft in the best possible service of mechanics, but they can entertain their friends with equal tact and perfection.

BUSINESS MEN.

There is only one Labor Pa- per published in Oregon—the Portland Labor Press. Guard yourself against fake adver- tising grafters who, it is reported, are trying to secure business under false pretenses.

The International Typographical Union has announced the election of officers to serve two years as follows: President, James M. Lynch, Syra- cuse, N. Y.; first vice president, John W. Hayes, Minneapolis, Minn.; secretary-treasurer, J. M. Bram- wood, Denver; delegates to the A. F. of L., Frank K. Foster, of Boston; Frank Morrison, of Chicago; Hugh Stevenson, of Toronto, and Michael Colbert, of Chicago. Trustees of the Union Printers' Home are: Thomas F. Crowley, Cincinnati; W. J. White, San Francisco; L. C. Shepard, Grand Rapids, Mich., and T. D. Fen- nessey, Los Angeles. The agent of the Union Printers' Home is George P. Nichols, Baltimore.

Chas. H. Kerr & Co., the book pub- lishers of Chicago, are sending cir- cular letters to the various unions ex- plaining that the union label appears on all their printed matter and ask- ing to be remembered when purchases are made of works of economic and political subjects. This request is a fair one and unions and individual members should take cognizance of it. The Kerr Co. is one of the few con- cerns in the country that puts the label on all its books, advertising matter and stationery. Patronize those who stand by you consistently. —Cleveland Citizen.

UNION LABEL
Collars & Cuffs
FAMOUS
CLOTHING CO.

FOR RENT.

Hall, 264 1/2 Alder street. Apply from 10 a. m. to 12 a. m., and from 2 p. m. to 4 p. m. to T. S. Worley, president and secretary Local 339, Bartenders' League.

HALL FOR RENT.

Any union desiring a meeting place can secure same by applying to T. J. Burns, business agent Carpenters' Union, No. 86 Tenth street. 2t

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

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FOR MEN

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COMPLETE NEW STOCK

OF THE LATEST DESIGNS IN FOOTWEAR, DIRECT FROM THE MAKER TO THE WEARER

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The Greatest Household Convenience of the Age

New Model

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Seventh and Alder Streets, Portland, Oregon

Gentlemen:—You may deliver to me one Electric Flat Iron, which I agree to try, and, if unsatisfactory to me, to return to you within 30 days from date of delivery. If I do not return it at that time you may charge same to my account at \$4. It is understood that no charge will be made for the iron if I return it within 30 days.

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Seventh and Alder Sts.

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The Cigarmakers Union of Portland is a strong advocate of the

Patronize Home Industry

policy. If the smoker purchases home-made goods, his money remains in the community, and adds to the volume of home enterprise. If you buy Eastern Cigars and Tobacco your money is taken out of your own community.

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